

In response to the currently outstanding requirement for restriction, Applicants on 6 October 2004 filed a response in which Species A was elected, and Claims 1-7 and 17 were designated as being the claims that read on the elected species. It now has been recognized, however, that Claim 18-19 also read on the elected species.

Accordingly, in supplemental response to the currently outstanding requirement for restriction, Applicant hereby elects Species A, Claims 1-7 and 17-19, without traverse for further prosecution in the merits in this application.

Applicants regret any inconvenience their failure to include Claims 18 and 19 among the claims designated as reading upon the elected species in their previous response may have caused.

Applicants respectfully submit that this communication is fully responsive to the currently outstanding Official Action in the above-identified application. Early substantive consideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

It is noted that the Office Action did not note or acknowledge Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement of 31 December 2003, or provide the Applicant with a signed, dated and initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449 submitted therewith in confirmation of the consideration of the art listed therein. Such action is respectfully requested.

It is also noted that the Office action did not acknowledge Applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), and Applicant's submission of the required certified copies of the Priority Documents, both of 29 January 2004. Such action is respectfully requested.

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Applicants believe that additional fees beyond those submitted herewith are not required in connection with the consideration of this response to the currently outstanding Official Action. However, if for any reason a fee is required, a fee paid is inadequate or credit is owed for any excess fee paid, you are hereby authorized and requested to charge and/or credit Deposit Account No. **04-1105**, as necessary, for the correct payment of all fees which may be due in connection with the filing and consideration of this communication.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 18, 2004


SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

Reg. No.: 27,840

David A. Tucker
(Type or print name of practitioner)
Attorney for Applicant(s)

Tel. No. (617) 439-4444

Edwards & Angell, LLP
P.O. Box 55874
P.O. Address

Customer No.: 21874

Boston, MA 02205

462695